

## SYNOPSIS

Catherine Ryan Hyde's novel entitled *Pay It Forward* is an amazing story about a twelve-year-old boy, Trevor McKinney, who creates a chain of goodness called pay it forward. Trevor comes from a broken family. His father, Ricky McKinney is irresponsible and ill-tempered father. Ricky does not care with his family. He prefers to have some fun outside his house. Ricky never stays at home. Meanwhile, Trevor's mother, Arlene McKinney is a busy mother. Since Ricky never cares with the family, Arlene has to work double to give the family basic needs life. She does not have time to spend with her son because she uses her spare time to take a rest. Arlene also has a problem with alcohol. She addicts to alcohol. Trevor wants to spend his time with his parents, but with the condition stated previously, Trevor spends his time alone. This condition affects him a lot. Trevor feels sad due to his parent's separation. In addition, he feels lonely because he finds no one at home to share with. Trevor represses his feeling inside.

Trevor does not show his feeling to anyone until he creates pay it forward. Pay it forward, the act of kindness, begins with Trevor's teacher, Reuben St. Clair who gives an assignment for an extra-credit in which the students are asked to design and put into action a plan for world change to be better world, for example do something good to others. Trevor decides to do a large favor for four people. Instead of the usual payback, he asks these people to pass the kindness along to four more people. To begin this chain of good deeds, Trevor unconsciously selects a lonely and homeless, Jerry; an old woman who has an uncaring son, Mrs. Ida

Greenberg; and surprisingly his social studies teacher, an eloquent but disenchanted man, Reuben, also his mother, Arlene. The four of them, interestingly, have similar condition with Trevor. At the beginning, it seems none of his good deeds works. Trevor believes his idea to be a failure. But one by one, Jerry, Mrs. Greenberg, Reuben and Arlene take the impact of Trevor's action and continue to pass the good deeds. Eventually, Reuben marries Arlene. Trevor's dream of having a complete, having a father and a mother; and having a happy family comes true. Pay it forward then transforms lives, taking on the significance and expansiveness of a social movement named *The Movement*. *The Movement* helps children who cannot afford to get education by giving them scholarships so they can get a proper education.